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Addendum

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President's summary

Report of the UNCTAD Public Symposium

(Agenda item 12 (b))

1. A representative of the Third World Network presented document TD/B/61/6 entitled "Report on the fifth UNCTAD Symposium: A better world economic order for equality and sustainable development post-2015". She said the Symposium had offered a valuable opportunity for civil society to exchange ideas and contribute to policy dialogue. Symposium participants had discussed the drivers behind widening inequality and the economic problems posed by such inequality. They had also explored how the economic crisis had exacerbated it.

2. The Symposium had addressed other critical issues such as the regulation of financial institutions in the public interest; the social and solidarity economy; the work of civil society organizations on tax justice; and how current trade and investment agreements made it more difficult for developing countries to achieve food security, diversify their economies and invest in public services.

3. In her view, the *Trade and Development Report, 2014* provided further analysis of many of the issues discussed at the Symposium. In particular, the Report showed how reduced policy space for developing countries had restricted their ability to tackle inequality and related problems.